

CLAIMS

1. Process for monitoring and recording operating problems of a medical device comprised of a medical insufflator, characterized in that it consists in continuously measuring, monitoring, and recording operating parameters of the pertinent medical device, in particular the dynamic or static pressure, and the gas flow rate, by storing the parameters measured over a predetermined number of the last operating cycles of the device or over a "sliding" period of operation of predefined length of this device, and if an operating problem is detected, storing in the memory the data recorded at the instant at which this problem occurs, the recorded data relating to a period extending from before and after the occurrence of the problem, the process also comprising detection of possible malfunctions of the components of this device, and recording detected failures of the components when the medical device under consideration is placed in service.

2. Process according to claim 1, wherein a malfunction of a component is indicated to the user and/or dictates temporary or definitive prohibition of placing the pertinent medical device in service.

3. Process according to claim 2, wherein malfunctions of components critical to safety are indicated to the user by automatic return of the medical device to the "pause" position or to the "wait" mode, with simultaneous display of an error code indicating the nature of the malfunction.

4. Process according to claim 3 or 4, wherein in order to take into account failures of a random or fleeting nature, the medical device is designed to be able to be restarted after it is

turned off and on again, this situation, however, remaining stored.

5. Process according to any of claims 1 to 4, wherein the occurrence of a problem in the course of operation of a medical device triggers an alarm and/or causes shutdown of the medical device, with or without counter-effect.

6. Process according to any of claims 1 to 5, wherein at the instant of recording each problem; especially the following are stored in association with the time data:

- the setpoint values of different parameters,
- the state of different controls of the medical device,
- the state of postings during other than the malfunctions of critical components,
- values of driving parameters of the medical device,
- associated physical measurements during the cycles encompassing the problem.

7. Process according to claim 6, wherein the physical output measurements of the medical device and their chronological development in the "wait" mode, for example during the entire alarm phase, are also stored.

8. Device for recording operating problems of a medical device, for implementing the process according to any of claims 1 to 7, wherein it comprises electronic means of measuring operating parameters of the medical device under consideration, relative to a storage unit designed, on the one hand, to store in a "sliding" manner the parameters measured over a predetermined number of the last cycles or over a predefined operating interval of the medical device, and, on the other hand, to permanently store the data acquired at the instant of occurrence

of a problem, and wherein it again comprises means of testing components of the medical device under consideration, relative to means of posting the failures of components, and with the aforementioned storage unit, which is also intended to record the failures of components.

9. Device according to claim 2, wherein the storage unit is designed to manage a minimum number of recordings of dated problems that can occur in succession.